

Docket No.: NHL-HOL-55
Serial No.: 09/942,254

beverages, classified in class 53, subclass 266.1.

III. Claims 15-18, drawn to a beverage container filling plant, classified in class 53, subclass 268.

IV. Claims 19-26, drawn to a product stabilizing section for a beverage container filling plant, classified in class 53, subclass 264.

IV. Claims 27-30, drawn to a method for stabilizing sealed beverage containers, classified in class 53, subclass 426.

The requirement for election set forth in the Action is hereby expressly traversed, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement are respectfully requested.

It is submitted that the above-listed Species I-IIIV are so closely related to one another that their examination could be most efficiently and effectively carried out in a single application.

However, in the event the election requirement is maintained, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Species IV for prosecution in the present application. Presently, Claims 19-26 appear to apply to Species IV.

It is respectfully requested that an action on the merits be issued at an early date.

Docket No.: NHL-HOL-55
Serial No.: 09/942,254

If mailed, I, the person signing this certification below, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated in the certification of mailing on the transmittal letter sent herewith, or if facsimile transmitted, I, the person signing this certification below, hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated in the certification of facsimile transmission on the transmittal letter which is being facsimile transmitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



Nils H. Ljungman, Esq.
Attorney for the Applicant
Reg. No. 25,997
Name of person signing certification
Nils H. Ljungman & Associates
P.O. Box 130
Greensburg, PA 15601-0130
Telephone:(724) 836-2305
Facsimile:(724) 836-2313